

House Resolution 583

By: Representatives England of the 108th, McCall of the 30th, Maddox of the 172nd, Collins of the 27th, James of the 135th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting that Congress oppose federal legislation that interferes with a state's ability to
2 direct the transport or processing of horses; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the processing of horses has become a controversial and emotional issue and
4 has resulted in the closing of all horse processing facilities throughout the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, federal legislation was introduced to amend the 1970 Horse Protection Act to
6 prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing,
7 selling, or donation of horses and other equines for processing and other purposes; and

8 WHEREAS, the loss of secondary markets has severely impacted the livestock industry by
9 eliminating the salvage value of horses and has significantly reduced the market value of all
10 horses; and

11 WHEREAS, prohibitions regarding the processing of horses have resulted in significant
12 increases in abandoned and starving animals and have had significant economic impact on
13 the entire equine industry; and

14 WHEREAS, the increase in unwanted or unusable horses has overwhelmed private animal
15 welfare agencies and the public's ability to care for surplus domestic horses; and

16 WHEREAS, the annual number of unwanted or unusable surplus domestic horses is
17 estimated to be 100,000, compounding annually; and

18 WHEREAS, issues related to the humane handling and slaughter of surplus domestic horses
19 are best addressed by proper regulations and inspection and not by banning or exporting the
20 issue; and

21 WHEREAS, state agriculture and rural leaders recognize the necessity and benefit of a state's
22 ability to direct the transport and processing of horses.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
24 GEORGIA that the members thereof request that Congress oppose federal legislation that
25 interferes with a state's ability to direct the transport or processing of horses.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the President of the United
28 States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the
29 United States Congress, and the members of the Georgia congressional delegation.